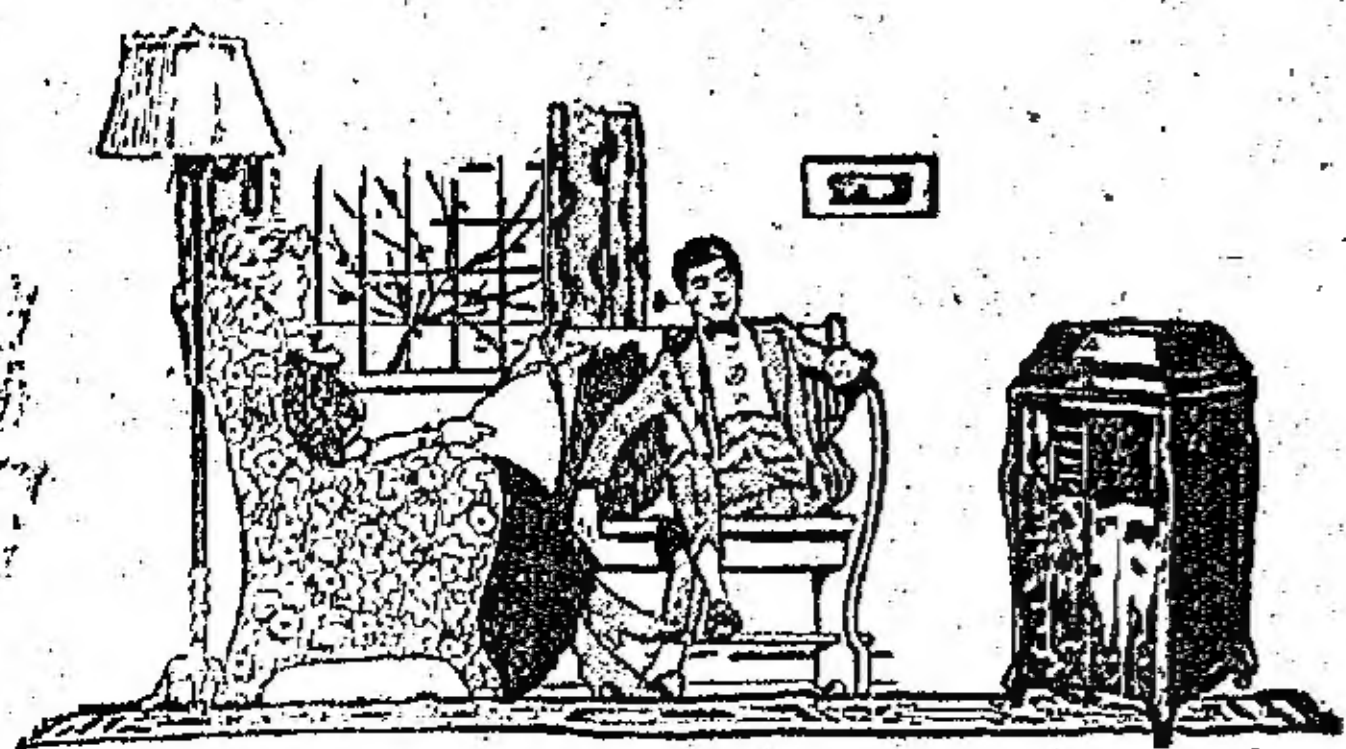


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SPECULATION IN TEA.

THE CAUSE OF HIGH PRICES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT TO "THE TIMES".]

The attention of the public has recently been drawn to the high prices ruling in the tea market, and the charges made regarding alleged cornering operations have led to a Government inquiry. Pending the result of that investigation a few statistics will perhaps enable us to arrive at some reasonable opinion on the subject.

It must first be pointed out that the stock of tea, which varies considerably with the time of the year. When India ships her abundant crops from July to January, imports largely exceed consumption and stock accumulates. Once January is turned stock diminishes, the lowest point being reached in May-June. The following figures show the minimum stock for each of the comparative years.

There is also an invisible stock, being the duty paid quantity in the hands of distributors. That, normally, may be taken as two weeks' consumption. At present, however, as at the corresponding period of 1915, this quantity, owing to pre-budget payments of duty, must be increased by at least 50 per cent, or another week's supply. The difference, although not taken into account here, must be remembered as an item to the good against 1913 or 1914.

BOARD OF TRADE FIGURES FOR CONSUMPTION OF TEA AND OF STOCKS, 1913-1915.

Consumption	Stock	Month's consumption	Average of stock
1913	1914	1913	1914
1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000
1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000
1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000

This table proves (1) that there was a larger stock on May 31st last than on either of the three preceding corresponding dates; (2) that this stock covered a longer period of consumption than did either of the others; and (3) that notwithstanding these factors favouring cheapness the price was 37 per cent. higher than in 1913, which comes next below it in relative plenty.

The problem, then, is why the higher price? It is true there have been some increases in freights and other charges, but coarser plucking and larger yields per acre have so reduced garden costs that probably most of the producers are laying down leaf in London at a lower rate than they did in 1915. It is only fair to add that they are in a wise responsible for the advance—they put their produce into public sale in Mincing-lane, and the bidding there determines the price. The excited buying of home operators is the unaccountable feature.

At this time last year quotations, with much more reason, were on the same level as to-day, but once the new crop began to arrive on a large scale they fell continuously until in November a drop of 4d. a lb. was established. From that date persistent purchasing from week to week has forced prices back again, and it is difficult to resist the belief that there must be extremely large holdings accumulated in a comparatively few hands. Probably the mutual jealousies of the great distributors have much to do with these operations, and the unexampled prosperity of the working classes, especially in the North, has provided the funds necessary for the looking up of capital in a venture of this kind. Speculation in tea, however, is a risky game.

The consumer may console himself with the reflection that he is not suffering so much as the figures suggest. Owing to the fierce struggle for business, tea is being retained at almost cost price, and no longer bears the profit that was once the sheet anchor of the grocer's business. If anyone is hit it is the single shop retailer, whose means of livelihood is being severely drained by the pressure of large combinations with their mechanical impersonality and limitless resources.

RUBBER REPORTS.

JOHORE RUBBER LANDS.

The report of the Board of Directors of the Johore Rubber Lands (1915). Limited, states:—After payment of all charges, the net profit for the year amounts to £31,134 10s. 6d., to which has to be added the sum of £5,106 11s. 6d., brought forward from last accounts, giving a total to be dealt with of £36,241 11s. 12d. Out of this the Directors recommend the payment of a dividend of one shilling a share (free of income-tax), absorbing £19,075 7s. To the next account the sum of £6,022 11s. 4d. is carried forward. The crop secured was 414,180 lbs., against an estimate of 400,000 lbs., showing an increase as compared with previous season of 184,858 lbs. The average gross price realised was 2/7-234d. per lb., comparing with 2/1-674d. for 1914, and the cost f.o.b. was 11/729d., against 1/0-441d. The estimated out-turn for the present year is 769,225 lb., of which the following quantities have been sold forward:—22,400 lbs. crepe, May-June delivery at 2/7d. per lb.; 22,400 lbs. ribbed smoked sheet, May-June delivery at 2/7d. per lb.; 67,500 lbs. crepe, July-December delivery at 3/4d. per lb.; 67,500 lbs. ribbed smoked sheet, July-December delivery at 3/34d. per lb.

CHINESE SPIES IN SHIPS.

A summons against Sin Song, of 30, Linchouse-cumway, for keeping a Chinese seaman's lodging-house without a licence was adjourned one day last month at Thames Police Court.

Mr. Abinger, for the Seamen's and Firemen's Union, said that out of a crew of eighty-nine in the British ship *Danube*, seventy were Chinamen provided in London. Such men were brought to Shanghai or Hongkong and afterwards said they were British subjects. There was no doubt that many were under the influence of Germany and went in British ships to convey information to the enemy.

It was of importance that all these lodging-houses should be registered. In what was known as "Chinatown" the Chinese population had grown from 1,000 to 8,000.

A GLIMPSE OF THE ARMY.

[BY SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE.]

It is not an easy matter to write from the front. You know that there are several courteous but inexorable gentlemen who may have a word in the matter, and their presence "impairs but small ease to the style." But above all you have the twin censors of your own conscience and common sense, which assure you that, if all other readers fail you, you will certainly find a most attentive one in the neighbourhood of the Haupt-Quartier. An instructive story is still told of how a certain live-meaning traveller recorded his satisfaction with the appearance of the big guns at the retiring and peaceful village of Jami and how three days later, by an interesting coincidence, the village of Jami passed suddenly off the map and dematerialised into brickdust and splinters.

I have been with soldiers on the war-path before, but never have I had a day so crammed with experiences and impressions as yesterday. Some of them at least I can faintly convey to the reader, and if they ever reach the eye of that gentleman at the Haupt-Quartier they will give him little joy. For the crowning impression of all is the enormous importunate confidence of the Army and its extraordinary efficiency in organisation, administration, material and personnel. I met in one day a sample of many types, an Army commander, a corps commander, two divisional commanders, staff officers of many grades, and above all, I met repeatedly the two very great men whom Britain has produced, the private soldier and the regimental officer. Everywhere and on every face one reads the same spirit of cheerful bravery. Even the half-mad cranks whose absurd consciences prevent them from turning into men under the prevailing influence. I saw a batch of them, neurotic and largely bespectacled, but working with a will by the roadside. They will volunteer for the trenches yet.

If there are pessimists among us they are not to be found among the men who are doing the work. There is no foolish bravado, no under-rating of a dour opponent, but there is a quick, alert, confident attention to the job in hand which is an inspiration to the onlooker. These brave lads are guarding Britain in the present. See to it that Britain guards them in the future! We have a bad record in this matter. It must be changed. They are the wards of the nation, both officers and men. Socialism has never had an attraction for me, but I should be a Socialist to-morrow if I thought that to ease a tax on wealth these men should ever suffer for the time or health that they gave to the public cause.

"Get out of the car. Don't let it stay here. It may be hit." These words from a staff officer give you the first idea that things are going to happen. Up to then you might have been driving through the black country in the Walsall district with the population of Aldershot let loose upon its dingy roads. "Put on this strapless helmet. That hat of yours would infuriate the Boche," this was an unkind allusion to the only uniform which I have a right to wear. "Take this gas helmet. You won't need it, but it is a standing order. Now come on."

We cross a meadow and enter a trench. Here and there it comes to the surface again where there is dead ground. At one such point an old church stands, with an unexploded shell-sticking out of the wall. A century hence folk will journey to see that shell. Then on again through an endless cutting. It is slippery clay below. I have no nails in my boots, an iron pot on my head, and the sun above me. I will remember that walk. Ten telephone wires run down the side. Here and there large thistles and other plants grow from the clay walls, so immobile has been our line. Occasionally there are patches of untidiness. "Shells," says the officer laconically. There is a racket of guns before us and behind, especially behind, but danger seems remote with all these. Bairnfather grows up. I pass one Tommy at work among boys. A glance at their shoulders shows me that they are of a public school battalion. "I thought you fellows were all officers now," I remarked. "No, sir, we like it better so." "Well, it will be a great memory for you. We are all in your debt." They salute, and we squeeze past them. They had the fresh, brown faces of boy cricketers. But their comrades were men of a different type, with hard, strong, rugged features, and the eyes of men who have seen strange sights. These are veterans, men of Mons, and their young pals of the public schools have something to live up to.

Up to this we have only had two clay walls to look at. But now our interminable and tropical walk is lightened by the sight of a British aeroplane sailing overhead. Numerous shrapnel bursts are all round it, but she floats on serenely, a thing of delicate beauty against the blue background. Now another passes—and yet another. All morning we saw them circling and swooping, and never a sign of a Boche. They tell me it is nearly always so—that we hold the air, and that the Boche intruder, save at early morning, is a rare bird. A visit to the line would reassure Mr. Pemberton-Billing. "We have never met a British aeroplane which was not ready to fight," said a captured German aviator the other day. There is a fine stern courtesy between the airmen on either side, each dropping notes into the other's aerodrome to tell the fate of missing officers. Had the whole war been fought by the Germans as their airmen have conducted it (I do not speak of course of the Zeppelin murderers) a peace would eventually have been more easily arranged. As it is, if every frontier could be settled, it would be a hard thing to stop until all that is associated with the words Cavell, Zeppelin, Wittenberg,

Lusitania, and Louvain has been brought to the bar of the world's justice.

And now we are there—in what is surely the most wonderful spot in the world, the front firing trench, the outer break-water which holds back the German tide. How strange that this monstrous oscillation of giant forces, setting in from east to west, should find their equilibrium here across this particular meadow of Flanders. "How far?" I ask. "180 yards," says my guide. "Pop," marks a third person just in front. "A sniper," says my guide. "Take a look through the periscope." I do so. There is some rusty wire before me, and a red line of broken earth. There is not a sign of movement, but sharp eyes are always watching us, even as these crouching soldiers around me are watching them. There are dead Germans in the grass before us. You need not see them to know that they are there. A wounded soldier sits in a corner nursing his leg. Here and there men pop out like rabbits from dug-outs and mine-shafts. Others sit on the fire step or lean smoking against the clay wall. Who would dream to look at their bold, careless faces that this is a front line and that at any moment it is possible that a grey wave may submerge them! With all their careless bearing I notice that every man has his gas helmet and his rifle within easy reach.

A mile of front trenches and then we are on our way back down that weary walk. There is a pause at Corps Headquarters, and after it we are taken to a medal presentation in a market square. Generals Munro, Haking and London, famous fighting soldiers all three, are the British representatives. An elderly French General stands beside them. British infantry keep the ground. In front are about fifty Frenchmen in civil dress of every grade of life, workmen and gentlemen, in a double rank. They are all so wounded that they are back in civil life, but to-day they are to have some solace for their wounds. They lean heavily on sticks, their bodies are twisted and maimed, but their faces are shining with pride and joy. The French General draws his sword and addresses them. One catches words like "honour" and "patrie." They lean forward on their crutches, hanging on every syllable which comes hissing and rasping from under that white moustache. Then the medals are pinned on. One poor lad is terribly wounded and needs two sticks. A little girl runs out with some flowers. He leans forward and tries to kiss her, but the crutches slip and he nearly falls upon her. It was a pitiful but beautiful little scene.

Now the British candidates march up one by one for their medals, hale, hearty men, brown and fit. There is a smart young officer of Scottish Rifles; and then a selection of Worcesters, Welsh Fusiliers and Scots Fusiliers, with one funny little Highlander, a tiny figure with a snub-nose helmet, a grinning boy's face beneath it, and a bedraggled uniform. "Many acts of great bravery," such was the record for which he was decorated. Even the French wounded smiled at his quaint appearance, as they did at any other Briton who had acquired the shaggy-gum habit, and came up for his medal as if he had been called suddenly in the middle of his dinner, which he was still endeavouring to bolt. Then came the end of the National Anthem. The British regiment formed fours and went past. To me that was the most impressive sight of any. They were the Queen's West Surreys, a veteran regiment of the great Ypres battle. What grand fellows! As the order came, "Eyes right," and all those fierce, dark faces flashed round upon us, I felt the might of the British infantry, the intense individuality which is not incompatible with the highest discipline. Much they had endured, but a great spirit shone from their faces. I confess that as I looked at those brave English lads, and thought of what we owe to them and to their like who have passed on, I felt more emotional than I have felt a Briton in foreign parts.

Now the ceremony was ended, and once again we set out for the front. It was to an artillery observation post that we were bound, and once again my description must be bounded by discretion. Suffice it, that in an hour I found myself, together with a razor-keen young artillery observer and an excellent old sportsman of a Russian prince, jammed into a very small space, and staring out through a slit at the German line. In front of us lay a vast plain scarred and slashed, with bare places at intervals, such as you see where gravel pits break a green common. Not a sign of life or movement save some wheeling crows. And yet down there, within a mile or so, is the population of a city. Far away a single train is puffing at the back of the German lines. We are here on a definite ground. Away to the right, nearly three miles off, is a small red house, dim to the eye but clear in the glasses, which is suspected as a German post. It is to go up this afternoon. The gun is some distance away, but I hear the telephone directions. "Mother" will soon do her in," remarks the gunner boy cheerfully. "Mother" is the name of the gun. "Give her five six three four," he cries through the phone. "Mother" utters a horrible bellow from somewhere on our right. An enormous spout of smoke rises ten seconds later from near the house. "A little short," says our gunner. "Two and a half minutes left," adds a still small voice, which represents another observer at a different angle. "Raise her seven five," says our boy encouragingly. "Mother" roars more angrily than ever. "How will that do?" she seems to say. "One and a half right," says our invisible gossip. I wonder how the folk in the house are feeling as the shells come ever nearer. "Gun laid, sir," says the telephone. "Fire." I am looking through my glass. A flash of fire on the house, a huge pillar of dust and smoke—then it settles and an unbroken field is there. The German

(Continued on next Column.)

COTTON TRADE AWARD.

DISAPPOINTMENT OF OPERATIVE LEADERS.

The award of Sir George Askwith on the application of the operatives in the cotton spinning trade for an increase of 10 per cent. in wages, was published last month in the following terms:—"Operatives to receive an advance of 5 per cent. to be paid on and after pay day in the week ending June 10. No alteration to be made in price lists and present wages during 1916, and six weeks' notice to be given after December 31 for any further alteration." Both parties agreed last week to leave the decision to Sir George Askwith. The operatives were the first to place their case in his hands, the employers agreeing to adopt a similar course following on a private conference. The result was received by the leaders of the operatives with feelings of elation, their opinion being that the present margin of prices in the cotton trade warranted a higher advance. The operatives' proposals contained an offer of a 5 per cent. advance, but no further alteration in the standard price list of wages for two years. Employers who have been seen state that the award only postpones the matter to February 7, 1917, when the whole question will be thrown into the melting-pot again.

Mr. E. Judson, president of the Operative Spinners' Association, said: "I am very much disappointed but we shall abide by it until February, 1917."

FAR EASTERN MEN AND THE WAR.

Mr. F. V. Smith, of Highlands Estate, F.M.S., has been awarded the Military Cross. Mr. Smith took part in a raid on the German trenches, and was wounded in thirteen places, but is now convalescent.

Sergeant Grimbale, formerly of the S.M.P. (says the *A.C. Daily News*), who was badly wounded in action and lost both legs, writes:—"Glad to say I'm all right. I am expecting to leave here (Wharfedale) shortly. Been under orders some two weeks now. I saw in the *Times*, May 17th, that Co. S.M.T. Howarth of 'Ours' was wounded in the left jaw and left shoulder. He was at Yangtze-poo previous to joining up. Got a bit of good news, *vide London Gazette* and *Sheffield Telegraph*, June 3rd. 'Yer 'umble's' name was in the list for D.C.M. and Military Medal. So I guess my loss is in. Not heard anything from the regiment officially yet. Guess I shall have to wait until I can hop about a bit at any rate. I knew I was recommended for it and am glad I got it."

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

CANTON ACCOUNTS.
June Accounts are to be paid not later than Wednesday, the 19th inst.

PARADES, ETC.
Wednesday, July 19th.—Whole of No. 4 Company at Central at 5.30 p.m.

Thursday, July 20th.—Orchestra Practice, 6 p.m.

Friday, July 21st.—Band Practice, 6 p.m.

Saturday, July 22nd.—Defaulter's Parade at Central 4 p.m. sharp. Uniform, helmets and rifles.

P. C. JENKIN,
D.S.P. (R.).

post has gone up. "It's a dear little gun," says the officer boy. "And her shells are reliable," remarked a senior behind us. "They vary with different calibres, but 'Mother' never goes wrong." "The German line was very quiet. 'Pur-gue' is no respondent pay quiet." "The Russian prince," "Yes, they are quiet to-day," answered the senior. "But we got it in the neck sometimes." We are all led off to be introduced to "Mother," who sits, squat and black, amid twenty of her grimy children who wait upon and feed her. She is an important person is "Mother"—and her importance grows. It gets clearer with every month that it is she, and only she, who can lead us to the Rhine. She can and she will if the factories of Britain can beat those of the Hun. See to it, you working men and women of Britain. Work now if you rest for ever after, for the fate of Europe and of all that is dear to us is in your hands. For "Mother" is a dainty eater, and needs good food and plenty. She is fond of strange lodgings, too, in which she prefers safety to dignity. But that is a dangerous subject.

One more experience of this wonderful day—the most crowded with impressions of my whole life. At night we take a car and drive north, and ever north, until at a late hour we halt and climb a hill in the darkness. Below is a wonderful sight. Down on the flats, in a huge semi-circle, lights are rising and falling. They are very brilliant, going up for a few seconds and then dying down. Sometimes a dozen are in the air at one time. There are the dull thuds of explosions and an occasional rat-tat-tat. I have seen nothing like it, but the nearest comparison would be an enormous ten-mile railway station in full swing at night, with signals winking, lamps wailing, engines hissing and carriages bumping. It is a terrible place down there, a place which will live as long as military history is written, for it is the Ypres Salient. What a salient it is, too! A huge curve, as outlined by the lights, needing only a little more to be an encirclement. Something caught the rope as it closed, and that something was the British soldiers. But it is a perilous place still by day and by night. Never shall I forget the impression of ceaseless, malignant activity which was borne in upon me by the white, winking lights, the red sudden glares, and the horrible thudding noises in that place of death beneath me.—*Daily Chronicle*.

DUTIES OF AN OFFICER.

IMPORTANCE OF KNOWLEDGE AND CHARACTER.

AN ADDRESS IN THE FIELD.

The following notes formed the foundation of an address which was lately delivered by a senior officer to a school for young officers "somewhere in France," says *The Times*. We have obtained his reluctant permission to give them wider publicity in *The Times*, because they seem to us to embody in plain and stirring English the best ideals of a British officer regarding his work and his men.

I hope you feel that you have picked up much that will be useful to you in your responsible position as officers. . . . General . . . has asked me to say something to you on the moral side of the duties of an officer. . . . In laying before you some remarks on such a subject, I would begin by impressing on you the great importance of your work. You must realise that, however good and skilful the disposition may be, battles must be won by fighting; the heroism, skill, and firmness of the most junior officers will have the most far-reaching results.

You are responsible for the successful leading of your men in battle; you are responsible for their safety, as far as this can be ensured, while gaining success in battle; you are responsible for their health, for their comfort, for their good behaviour and discipline. Finally, and not least, you are responsible for maintaining the honour of England, for doing all you can to ensure the security of England, and of our women and our children after us.

To bear all these responsibilities successfully you must acquire, first, knowledge. You must know what to do and how to do it, in order to lead your men with success and honour, and protect them from destruction or loss, which will be suffered if you are ignorant of your work and of your profession.

Secondly, you must acquire character—that is, resolution, self-confidence, self-sacrifice in order to inspire your men by your example, sustain their courage in danger by your example, and their endurance in hardship by your example.

Now as regards the first—Knowledge—remember two things. (1) Knowledge is not a Heaven-sent gift; it is the outcome of study, hard work, and thought. (2) It is an absolute necessity to you as an officer. It is the foundation of your own character, for without it you cannot gain self-confidence. You must know your job. If you do not, you can have no confidence in yourself, and the men can, and will, have no confidence in you either. Knowledge is therefore the first great essential for your capacity to command your men.

The men must have confidence in their officer. They must feel not only that he knows his job, but also that he will set the example of courage, self-sacrifice, and cheerfulness, and that he will look after their welfare and comfort.

Now as regards the second requirement of an officer—Character. The character of the officer is the foundation of the discipline of his men. Men can only be commanded successfully by men. No troops ever possessed a discipline that was worth a damn—that could stand the great disintegrating strain of battle—who were commanded by weak, slow, irresolute "Old Women." "Old Women" are not confined to persons who wear petticoats; nor to persons over 70 years of age. I have met "Old Women" in trousers, and of any age between 20 and 60. . . . Don't be an "Old Woman" whatever else you may be.

DISCIPLINE.

The creation of Discipline and the maintenance of Discipline are among your most important duties. Your orders, and the orders given by your N.C.O.s, must always be obeyed without hesitation, with energy and with cheerfulness. Never pass any lapse from duty, however trivial, without taking notice of it. Drop hard on to slackness, disobedience, slovenliness. Never stand any rot or nonsense. Insist on great cleanliness, on great alertness, quickness, and cheerfulness.

I don't want you to go away, however, with the idea that the men must be treated like dogs—very far from it. You don't want to cause or damn every time you notice things wrong. Sometimes a word of encouragement, or a patient listening to an explanation, or a smile when pointing out the fault will go a long way.

But you cannot be too particular in insisting on a smart, alert, cheerful appearance, and on the prompt and willing accordance of all honours and salutes. It is only that company or that battalion which shows attention to all this which really does possess discipline. Without discipline, no body of men will stand an hour of real danger.

These matters of appearance and respect to officers are not eye-wash. They are the outward and visible sign of the inward and spiritual grace, as the parson says!

THE OFFICERS' LOOKING-GLASS.

The company or the battalion is the best looking-glass of its officers. In the company and the battalion you see the image of the officers—you see yourselves. When you note a company on the march—black-looking, miserable, dirty, slow, and almost sulky in coming to attention, with half a dozen stragglers creeping on behind, and the officers and N.C.O.s taking no notice, you can tell at once that these are bad officers, and that no discipline and no energy exist there. On the contrary, when you see a company marching well closed up—men with heads erect (even though covered with mud or trunks), and quick and energetic in the movements as they come to the salute—these show good officers and a well-disciplined company. When you take your men into a action. (Continued on next Column.)

GERMAN FICCTIONS ABOUT BELGIUM.

CALUMNIES REFUTED.

The Belgian Ministries of Justice and of Foreign Affairs have recently published the official reply of their Government to the German White Book of May, 1915. "Die Völkerverleumdung der Belgischen Volkskriege" ("The Conduct of the Belgian People's War in Breach of International Law").

The White Book was scattered far and wide among neutrals, and, although the flimsy and untrustworthy character of the case it sought to make was immediately detected by all competent judges of evidence, it was artfully designed to impress the ignorant and the careless. Characteristically enough, a special edition was prepared for Belgium, which omitted all of the two hundred depositions supplied for the behoof of neutrals—just as the version for Belgium use of the German answer to Sir Edward Grey's speech of March last year omitted the charge of Belgian cruelty to the German wounded which figured so prominently in the full text. It is not thought expedient to formulate accusations so grossly and so palpably false among the population whom Germany seeks to blacken by them.

The Grey Book completely demolishes the fictions on which the Germans rely as an excuse for a record of horrors and barbarities unparalleled in the modern wars of European nations, and it demonstrates the stupidity and the dishonesty of the highly-placed German officials who have pretended to countenance these untruths. Very telling is the contrast it draws between the undeniable crimes of the German armies and the alleged offences of the Belgian population. There is no room for doubt about the deaths of the four or five thousand Belgian civilians whom the Germans "executed." Their names are known, their bodies have been identified. There is no room for doubt that the Germans have burnt down thousands of Belgian homes. The charred ruins are there to prove the facts. There is no room for doubt as to the vast scale on which these enormities have been committed. In the single province of Brabant over 10,000 houses were looted. And there is no room for doubt that these things were done deliberately, systematically, and by order. The German prisoners admit it; the orders are there to show it.

What, on the other hand, is the evidence for the charges which the German Government make against the Belgians, but which they dare not support in Belgium? The German investigation into them was one-sided, German soldiers were incited, German soldiers deposing under the eyes of their hierarchical chiefs, were the witnesses, and German officers were the judges. Belgians did, indeed, give evidence, but their evidence has been suppressed without a word. Only two Belgians are quoted as direct witnesses, and one of these was servant to a German. What is the value, juridical or historical, of such an investigation, especially when it was postponed for months after the facts to which it relates? The Germans refuse any other.

Eight different proposals for an inquiry at which both sides should be represented have been made by Belgians and two by Dutch subjects. The Germans have ignored or evaded them all. The tribunal did what it was set to do. It shut its eyes to awkward facts, as it struck out inconvenient depositions. It mentions 80 communists in which Germany exercised "reprisals." It says nothing of more than 30 others where she also burnt and plundered in the name of Kultur. It repeats the myth of the Belgian priests instigating risings and firing on the Germans with mitrailleuses from their church towers, and the yet viler and more infamous myth of the mutilation of German wounded by Belgian women and girls. It passes over in silence all the denials of these tales—denials in several cases made by Germans themselves.

The Grey Book calmly tests the evidence, notes its improbabilities and inconsistencies, and confronts it with a mass of testimony given by Belgian witnesses of unimpeachable integrity and position, of all conditions and of all opinions, from Cardinal Mercier and the Grand Master of the Grand Orient to the Brussels leaders of the Labour Party.

We cannot go into this voluminous examination here. We shall merely note a single point as an example of its effectiveness. How, it inquires, does it happen that in no case of the alleged blinding of wounded Germans does the White Book state that a doctor was called to prove the injury, or mention that any one of the reputed victims of alleged mutilation personally lodged a complaint before the German military authorities? Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg made this charge himself in its most horrible form in the Reichstag on September 6th, 1914. What is the German Chancellor's answer?

either in ordinary trench warfare or in a big attack, all this discipline will repay you and your men themselves a thousand-fold.

Try and carry out these principles, and put the knowledge you have acquired here into execution when you return to your battalion. Do not overlook the fact that—though you must possess (and show that you possess) decision and resolution in order to instil discipline into your men—merely to insist on obedience, smartness, and compliance with all orders is not sufficient. Do not forget that the men are your comrades; and do not overlook the fact that the British soldier has a great soul, and can and does appreciate what courage, honour, patriotism, and self-sacrifice mean. Talk to your men often on these great qualities, both in lectures and to individuals personally. You will always find a ready response, which will one day stand you in good stead; and, what is more important still, will stand England and the Empire in good stead.

WAR ON THREE FRONTS. THE STRAITS OF AUSTRIA.

[BY "THE TIMES" MILITARY CORRESPONDENT.]

When the Austro-Hungarian Staff decided to launch their attack upon Italy, and to engage in this attack the half of their Army, they must, we assume, have satisfied themselves that there was nothing doing on the Russian front and that their lines were secure.

This attack upon Italy seemed to us here to indicate that the Germans intended to maintain a generally defensive attitude against Russia this summer, for, had it been otherwise, the folly of permitting half of the Austrian Army to indulge in an adventure in the south would have been evident to a child. The German Staff, humbled not a little by its gross miscalculations before Verdun, gave Austria her head, and this Power must needs recommence the conquest of Italian provinces once under the Austrian heel.

We cannot believe that Falkenhayn, and still less Hindenburg, initiated this stroke. Lately a secondary offensive against the Italian Command, and always has been so in great European wars. For Germany's chief ally to involve half his Army in North Italy at a time when Germany's chief enemies were piling up troops and guns, and preparing to attack Germany in East and West, was really a masterpiece of ineptitude, and now that its consequences are apparent we can believe that hard words are being used and that both Falkenhayn and Conrad von Hötendorf are feeling very uncomfortable. All depended upon the inviolability of the Austrian front over against Russia, and Brusiloff's Armies have shown us what this inviolability is worth.

RUSSIA'S RECOVERY.

It has very rarely been the case in the past that a Power whose Armies have been seriously crippled has recovered itself in the course of the campaign, and all the more is the credit due to the Russians for having recommenced the campaign with redoubled energy and already with such brilliant successes. It needed someone to remind us what cordons are worth, and never was such a cord on seen as that which stretches from the Baltic to Bessarabia over 700 miles of practically open ground. These wonderful Russians have gone through the enemy's lines as though they were made of paper, and what strikes us most is the splendid spirit and the energy with which the attack was conducted. The Austrian technical equipment has changed much, and for the better, since the war began, but the battles in Volhynia and Galicia show that Austrian psychology has not changed at all. His Imperial Majesty the Tsar, and his Chief of Staff, General Alexieff, receive our warmest congratulations. It is to the Tsar whose determination to persevere when the hour was darkest was so superb, that our tribute is first due, and next it is due to the Russian Armies and the Russian people, who have second-ed so devotedly the Imperial efforts, and are once more saving the liberties of Europe.

THE EASTERN THEATRE.

It is only a beginning. The Russian Armies of the South have always fought valiantly, but they only represent a third of the Russian operating forces, and when the other two-thirds come into play the General Staff at Vienna and at Lemberg will be sending each other disquieting dispatches. The Austrians against Russia have few reserves, but the Germans under Hindenburg have not any except drafts, so far as we know, and it will be difficult for them to recover themselves if any part of their 430-mile front gives way. It is unlikely that the Germans in Russia can effectively succour the Austrians when they themselves may soon be fighting for their lives.

Neither the Germans nor the Austrians in Russia can easily, and still less soon, be reinforced. The Germans have withdrawn all their divisions except one from the Balkans for the profit of the Verdun operations, and for the same profit they have sucked von Hindenburg dry of his divisions in reserve. They have squandered from 350,000 to 400,000 men before Verdun, and from the British front they have also taken troops without gaining their ends. We shall now see whether any fresh divisions will appear from the interior of Germany, but, if none comes, and the Russians fight as freely and as fiercely in the north as in the south, there will be awkward times for Germany ahead.

Judging by the number of prisoners already taken from the Austrians, the latter may have lost in casualties a third of their strength on the Russian front, and they, too, are without strategic reserves, so far as we know at present. The only course open to them is to hurry back to Galicia the reserves assembled in Trentino and at other points of the Italian front, and this they will not decide to do in a moment, for military pride will stand in the way. All the same, the pressing invitations of the Germans, and the peril of Lemberg, will probably in the end prevail, and we must expect an ebb of troops from the Italian to the Russian front.

This movement will take time. The Austrians in Trentino and across the frontier are deeply committed; the valleys are narrow, the roads few, and railway communications very defective. The bulk of the Austrian troops will have to recross the Alps, and before considerable reinforcements can appear at Lemberg some weeks must elapse, and these reinforcements will be too late. We must not fix our eyes exclusively upon Brusiloff. The operations in the Eastern theatre will affect wide areas, and we are only at the opening of a movement of great moment and importance. The Allies are moving at last. They are all in touch, by wireless, even in Asia Minor, and we must look far and wide if we wish to embrace with one regard all the horizon which will soon be aflame.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Meanwhile the situation in the West, has, for the moment, not materially changed. The Germans are still holding at Verdun without even gaining the right bank of the Meuse, and the French defences there, while even if they gained them, no serious strategical advantage (Continued on next Column.)

WHY GERMANY CRIES FOR PEACE.

AN AMERICAN VIEW OF THE "WAR MAP."

A recent number of the *New York Tribune* contained a long leading article entitled "Why Germany 'Cries for Peace,'" from which the following extracts are made:—

"The single fact in the world situation of to-day is that Germany is crying for peace. The peace terms Germany offers will not bring about a situation greatly improving German prospects before the war. France, Great Britain and Russia are to keep all that they had before, save in the case of Poland. By way of restoring the balance, Poland is to be erected into a free State. But this means that 5,000,000 Poles will be subtracted from Russia, and the 4,000,000 Poles in Eastern Germany, who will not be liberated, will look to Russia for aid to complete the restoration of Poland, as Sardinia looked to France."

These are the reasons why it must be plain to all observers that Germany, on her own statement of conditions, has lost the war. But she has not lost the desire for her place in the sun, and she has not lost confidence in that tremendous military machine which almost brought her victory in September, 1914. She stands in precisely the position that Louis XIV. stood after his first encounter with the coalition of Europe in which his armies had overrun the Low Countries and Southern Germany but had missed supreme success because of the fact that Europe had risen against him.

A BAD INVESTMENT.

"Louis XIV. made peace; he made peace on terms quite as reasonable as those of Germany to-day. But a few years after he resumed his efforts, and it was not until the Peace of Utrecht, almost at the end of his life, that he gave over the effort to assert the supremacy of France in Europe. If the terms of peace that German now offers mean anything they mean that Germany, recognising that she has lost this war, seeks to close out a bad investment before her military power is shaken or her army has lost its reputation for something like invincibility."

"There is no difference between the French, British, Russian and German points of view as to the present war. Germany has lost it. She confesses she has lost it by offering peace on such terms as give her nothing real to show for her tremendous sacrifices. But the purpose of the Allies is to persist until the legend of German invincibility, like the Napoleonic legend, is so completely shattered that the peril for the future of a German resumption of the assault upon the world organisation, that exists will be abolished."

"Germany is willing to pay, in sacrifice of a portion of what she has seized, for the chance to keep her future intact and prepare for 'The Day,' which has been postponed but not foregone. 'This is why peace proposals fall upon deaf ears in Allied capitals.'"

would accrue. Some five divisions have recently been taken from other parts of the German line in the West and given to the Crown Prince. This hereditary chieftain has a talent for exhausting troops piecemeal, and there his talent ends. Meanwhile the capacity of the Allies to deliver hard blows in return has not seriously diminished, and it is not the German attack at Ypres, which has apparently but little weight behind it, and from which we have already recovered, which will alter or modify General Joffre's intentions, or the character of British co-operation, when the hour strikes.

Some people write as though Sir Douglas Haig were in some sense more subordinate to the eminent French Generalissimo than was Lord French. There is no essential difference. General Joffre commands the larger of the two Allied Armies, and he is defending his own country directly. Upon him is the main responsibility, and, as our trust in him and in the Grand Quarter General is complete, it is to him we look, and look confidently, for the supreme direction. But the character of the association is still that of co-operation by Allies, and, if the operations are necessarily interdependent, the British Commander is still responsible to his Government, and he possesses all the rights and duties which appertain to an Ally. There is absolute trust and confidence on both sides, and, if operations in the same theatre by Allied forces commonly lead to difficulties, it is a fact that in the West these have been reduced almost to vanishing point by mutual good will and the comradeship of battle.

THE WAR OFFICE.

This is not the time for political upheavals in the capitals of Allies. Such upheavals serve no cause but the enemy's, and can only be justified when a Government fails to display sufficient foresight and energy in the conduct of the war. A change of governmental personnel causes the great disturbance in the midst of a war like this and is a positive curse.

When a change has to take place, as in our case at the War Office now, it is necessary that it should take place at once, for a *locum tenens* is not advantageous, but the reverse. We need an administrator of the best type who will be at his desk, as Kitchener was, from 9 in the morning till 6 at night, and, if the *locum tenens* has so many other interests that he cannot give up a fraction of these hours to the work, then the sooner he goes the better. Telegrams and dispatches come in by shocks every day, and if a War Secretary is not in his place to attend to them at once the efficient conduct of a war is prejudiced. This is particularly the case at present when we are reaching the supreme crisis of the campaign of 1916 by land and sea, and it is indispensable that the thoroughly unsatisfactory situation at the War Office should be no further prolonged.

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SHIPPING

ARRIVALS.

CHENAN, British str., from Canton, 17th July.
 HOKUTO MARU, Japanese str., 2,261, Suzuki, 18th July—Bulak Papan 10th July, General—Doddwell & Co.
 SUSHU MARU, Jap. str., from Canton, 18th July.
 TEL, Chinese str., 1,072, F. S. Gundersen, 18th July—Saigon 13th July, General—Order.
 YATSHING, British str., 1,424, R. Y. Anderson, 17th July—Kobe 11th July, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 YERIMO MARU, Japanese str., 2,335, Y. Ishikawa, 18th July—Sundakan 13th July, General—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.
 YUENANG, British str., 1,129, Messey, 18th July—Manila 15th July, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

CLEARANCES.

IN THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE, July 18th.
 JAVA MARU, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 LAMAS, British str., for Hongkong.
 LOKSANG, British str., for Hongkong.
 NANYO MARU, Jap. str., for Tayeh.

DEPARTURES.

CHENAN, British str., for Shanghai.
 CHINSHUA, British str., for Manila.
 HATHOS, British str., for Swatow.
 POLYPHENES, British str., for Kobe.
 SUSHU MARU, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 SOMALI, British str., for Shanghai.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

AMERICAN MAILS.
 The str. *Empress of Japan* arrived at Nagasaki on Sunday, the 16th instant, at 8.30 a.m., left Nagasaki same day, at 7 p.m.
 The str. *Empress of Asia* left Vancouver on Thursday, the 13th instant, at noon.
 The str. *Empress of Russia* arrived at Nagasaki on Sunday, the 16th instant, at 8 a.m., left Nagasaki same day, at 4 p.m.
 MERCHANT STEAMERS.
 The str. *Benlomond* from Middlesbrough and London left Singapore for this port on the 13th instant and may be expected to arrive here or about the 19th instant.
 The B. and A. str. *St. Atlanta* left Sydney for this port on the 15th instant (via Queensland ports and Manila), and may be expected to arrive here on or about the 5th August.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TODAY
 Noon—The "Devonport" Steamship Co., Ltd., Final Winding-up Meeting at the Company's Office.
 12.15 p.m.—The "Pharmang" Steamship Co., Ltd., Final Winding-up Meeting at the Company's Office.
TONIGHT
 9.15 p.m.—New Bandman Opera & Comedy Co., at the Theatre Royal—"Oh! I Say."
 9.15 p.m.—"The Pallada," at Kowloon.
TOMORROW
 9.15 p.m.—New Bandman Opera & Comedy Co., at the Theatre Royal—"A Country Girl."
 Saturday, 22nd July—
 9 p.m.—Night Fete at the V.R.C.

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HONGKONG-NEW YORK.

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 Captain G. Manley, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this port on or about FRIDAY, the 28th July, 1916, taking Passengers and Cargo to the above Ports. The str. "NANKIN" will proceed through to Port Said, Marseilles and London.
 Bills and Valuations for Bombay (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into a Steamer of the B.I.S.N. Co.
 Parcels will be received at the Office until 4 p.m. the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required.
 For further particulars, apply to—
E. V. D. PARR,
 Acting Superintendent.
 Hongkong, 13th July, 1916.

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VESSELS ADVERTISED AS LOADING

To ascertain the anchorage of any Vessel, the Harbour has been divided into Four Sections commencing from Green Island. Vessels anchoring nearest Kowloon are marked "K." nearest Hongkong "H." midway between Hongkong and Kowloon "M." and those vessels berthed at the Kowloon Wharf "L.W." together with the number denoting the section.

SECTIONS.

1. From Green Island to the Harbour Master's.	2. From Harbour Master's to Blake Pier.	3. From Blake Pier to Naval Yard.	4. From Naval Yard to East Point.
DESTINATION.	VESSEL'S NAME.	FLAG & REG.	CAPTAIN.
LONDON & SWANSEA	CITY OF BOMBAY	Brit. str.	S. Nishimura
LONDON VIA SINGAPORE, MALACCA, PENANG, & COLOMBO	MISHIMA MARU	Brit. str.	G. Manley
LONDON VIA USUAL PORTS OF CALL	NANKIN	Brit. str.	H. R. Hetherington B.N.E.
LONDON & BOMBAY VIA USUAL PORTS OF CALL	NOVAKA	Brit. str.	D. A. Gardiner
GENOA	LANGSTON	Brit. str.	Charbonnel
MAURITIUS & SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS	SALAMIS	Brit. str.	Deguchi
DELAGO BAY, DURBAN, EAST LONDON, & MARSILLIES VIA PORTS	GOYERAT	Brit. str.	T. Yamaguchi
VICTORIA, B.C., & SEATTLE VIA KENLUNG, & C.	SHEDDOGA MARU	Jap. str.	Pine
VICTORIA & TACOMA VIA MANILA & C.	MEXICO MARU	Jap. str.	E. Bent
BOHIOAN, PERUVIAN & CHILE PORTS VIA JAPAN	ANTO MARU	Jap. str.	T. H. Roberts
BOSTON & NEW YORK VIA PANAMA CANAL	CITY OF NAPLES	Brit. str.	S. Robinson
SAN FRANCISCO VIA SHANGHAI & JAPAN, & C.	MUNCASTER CASTLE	Brit. str.	A. J. Hatley
SAN FRANCISCO VIA SHANGHAI & HONGKONG	TENYO MARU	Jap. str.	S. Robinson
SAN FRANCISCO VIA SHANGHAI & HONGKONG	CHINA	Brit. str.	F. C. Gambrell
VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI & JAPAN, & C.	EXPRESS OF JAPAN	Brit. str.	G. Carter
VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI & JAPAN, & C.	EXPRESS OF ASIA	Brit. str.	K. Yoshikawa
VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI & JAPAN, & C.	MONTAGLE	Brit. str.	Takano
VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI & JAPAN, & C.	EXPRESS OF RUSSIA	Brit. str.	F. E. Garrett
AUSRAI CAN PORTS VIA MANILA	CHANGSHA	Brit. str.	E. Forsyth
AUSTRALIAN PORTS VIA MANILA	EASTERN	Brit. str.	C. Williams
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	AKI MARU	Jap. str.	Hori
TIENTSIN VIA WEIHAIWEI	THILWONG	Dut. str.	J. H. Lishman
WEIHAIWEI & TIENTSIN	TANGO MARU	Jap. str.	S. Homewood
SHANGHAI	CHIPSING	Brit. str.	Robertson
SHANGHAI, MOJI & KOBE	LANGKON MARU	Jap. str.	W. Siskard
SHANGHAI	WINGWANG	Brit. str.	K. Soyeda
SHANGHAI, KOBE & MOJI	CHANGSHA	Brit. str.	Kawai
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	CHANGSHA	Brit. str.	D. Asbury
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	SANTHIA	Brit. str.	C. C. Talbot B.N.E.
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	KWONGSANG	Brit. str.	W. J. Pasmore
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	ATROH	Brit. str.	J. W. Brans
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	ITO MARU	Jap. str.	M. Koyashi
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	TENSHIN MARU	Jap. str.	W. Mossey
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	NOBE	Brit. str.	S. Tokusaki
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	MAITA	Brit. str.	Knight
SWATOW, AMOY & FOOSHOW	HAICHING	Brit. str.	V. Somakawa
SWATOW, AMOY & FOOSHOW	HA HONG	Brit. str.	E. E. Glynn
SWATOW, AMOY & FOOSHOW	KAIJO MARU	Jap. str.	B. S. Anderson
TAMSU & KEELUNG VIA SWATOW & AMOY	SOSHU MARU	Jap. str.	Nomura
AMING & TAKAO VIA SWATOW & AMOY	YUENSANG	Brit. str.	G. Kennedy
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AMING & TAKAO VIA SWATOW & AMOY	INDO MARU	Jap. str.	J. Robinson
AMING & TAKAO VIA SWATOW & AMOY	NAMANG	Brit. str.	J. E. Evans
AMING & TAKAO VIA SWATOW & AMOY	YANGSHING	Brit. str.	
AMING & TAKAO VIA SWATOW & AMOY	COLOMBO MARU	Jap. str.	
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AMING & TAKAO VIA SWATOW & AMOY	MAUSANG	Brit. str.	
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AMING & TAKAO VIA SWATOW & AMOY	TAKSANG	Brit. str.	
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FOR
 SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA "NAMSANG" ... Wednesday, 19th July, 3 p.m.
 HOIHOW & HAIPHONG "TAKSANG" ... Thursday, 20th July, 7 a.m.
 SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA "YATSHING" ... Saturday, 22nd July, 3 p.m.
MANILA
 TIENTSIN VIA WEIHAIWEI "CHIPSING" ... Sunday, 23rd July, 10 p.m.
 SHANGHAI "WINGSANG" ... Sunday, 23rd July, 10 p.m.
 SHANGHAI "CHOSANG" ... Sunday, 23rd July, 10 p.m.
 SHANGHAI "HINSANG" ... Wednesday, 26th July, Noon.
 SANDAKAN "KWONGSANG" ... Friday, 28th July, 10 p.m.
 SANDAKAN "MAUSANG" ... Friday, 28th July, Noon.
 SANDAKAN "LOONGSANG" ... Saturday, 29th July, 3 p.m.
MANILA
RETURN TOURS TO JAPAN.
 The steamers "KUTSANG," "NAMSANG," "LAISANG," and "POONGSANG" leave about every 3 weeks, generally call at Shanghai en route for Japan, returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong. Time occupied, 25 days. This service is supplemented by the "YATSHING," "KUNANG," leaving Hongkong at regular intervals for Yokohama (when sufficient inducement is offered), Kobe and Moji and returning direct to Hongkong. Time occupied, 18 days.
 These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.
 A duly qualified surgeon is also carried.
 Steamers have superior accommodation for First Class passengers and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.
 Taking cargo on Through Bills of Lading to Yangtze Ports, Chefoo, Tientsin, Dairen, Weihaiwei.
 Taking cargo on Through Bills of Lading to Kuantan, Labad, Davao, Jimpore, Tawau, Uman, Jesselton and Labuan.
UNDER STRAITS GOVERNMENT PASSPORT REGULATIONS
 all European Passengers leaving the Colony for Straits Settlements are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and Description affixed thereto.
 Telephone No. 215.
 For Freight or passage, apply to **JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.**
 Hongkong, 18th July, 1916.

BRITISH INDIA S. N. CO., LTD.
 NEW SERVICE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN
 YOKOHAMA, KOBE, HONGKONG AND BANGKOK.
 Steamers are despatched Eastward and Westward at regular intervals taking Passengers and Cargo at Current Rates.
 For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.
 Telephone No. 215.
 Hongkong, 16th April, 1915.

THE ROYAL R.M.S.P. MAIL STEAM PACKET CO.
 PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.
 SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.
HOME WARD.
TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE.
 Sailings to VICTORIA, VANCOUVER, SEATTLE, TACOMA AND PORTLAND.
 For Freight and Further Particulars, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.
 Telephone No. 215 Sub. Ex. 10.
 Hongkong, 16th April, 1916.

CANADIAN PACIFIC OCEAN SERVICES LIMITED

FROM CHINA & JAPAN TO CANADA, UNITED STATES & EUROPE VIA VANCOUVER.
 Calling at Shanghai, Nagasaki (Inland Sea), Kobe and Yokohama in connection with the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.
QUICKEST TIME ACROSS THE PACIFIC
 "EMPRESS OF RUSSIA"—"EMPRESS OF ASIA"
 16,500 Tons Gross Register—Quadruple Screw—Speed 18 Knots.
 "EMPRESS OF JAPAN"—REDUCED FIRST CLASS FARES.
 "MONTEAGLE"—INTERMEDIATE.
 PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
 "EMPRESS OF JAPAN" 26 JULY "EMPRESS OF JAPAN" 20 SEPT.
 "EMPRESS OF ASIA" 30 AUG. "EMPRESS OF ASIA" 4 OCT.
 "MONTEAGLE" 30 AUG.
 "EMPRESS OF RUSSIA" 6 SEPT.
 * Calls at Moji instead of Nagasaki.
 For further information, apply to Company's Agents.
 HONGKONG—SHANGHAI—MANILA—Kobe—YOKOHAMA—
 MOJI—YOKOHAMA.
P. D. SUTHERLAND, J. H. WALLACE,
 General Agent, Passenger Department. General Agent.

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P. & O. S. N. CO.

ROYAL MAIL SERVICE.
 WILL despatch VESSELS to the Undermentioned PORTS on or about the DATES named—
FOR **STRANERS** **TO SAIL** **REMARKS**
 LONDON VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID and MARSEILLES "NANKIN" ... Noon, 28th July } Direct Service.
 SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, NOBE and YOKOHAMA "Capt. D. Asbury" ... About 1st Aug. } Direct Service.
 LONDON & BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID and MARSEILLES "NOVAKA" ... Noon, 11th Aug. } Connecting Colombo with Mail s.s. "Kaiser-I-Hind."
 SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & MALTA "Capt. C. C. Talbot, B.N.E." ... About 14th Aug. } Direct Service.
 WIRELESS ON ALL STEAMERS: Return tickets at a fare and-a-half available to Europe for two years, or Intermediate Ports for six months. Round-the-world and through tickets to New York, at Special Rates.
SEE SEPARATE ADVERTISEMENT.
 For PASSAGE RATES, HAND-BOOKS, and FREIGHTS, apply to
E. V. D. PARR,
 Acting Superintendent.
 P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office
 Hongkong, 19th July, 1916.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Yatshing*, from Kobe, for Hongkong, Mr. White.
 Per *Yuenang*, from Manila, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. White, Mr. and Mrs. Seale, Mr. Price, Mr. Maherson, Mr. Karling, Mr. Johnston, Mr. King, Lieut. Bryant, and Mr. Nutter.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer
"NOVARA."
 Arrived Hongkong on 16th July, 1916, FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.
 Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each Consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark and delivery can be obtained as the Goods are landed.
 This vessel brings on Cargo—
 From London, A.G., ex s.s. "Kaiser-I-Hind."
 From Persian Gulf, ex s.s. B. I. S. N. and B. P. S. N. Co.'s Steamers.
 Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary within 6 hours.
 Goods not cleared within 8 days including date of arrival will be subject to rent.
 No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.
 Damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 a.m. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.
E. V. D. PARR,
 Acting Superintendent.
 Hongkong, 16th July, 1916.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer
"SOMALI."
 Arrived Hongkong on 17th July, 1916, FROM LONDON, MALTA, PORT SAID, SUEZ, AND STRAITS.
 Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each Consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark and delivery can be obtained as the Goods are landed.
 Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary within 6 hours.
 Goods not cleared within 8 days including date of arrival will be subject to rent.
 No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.
 Damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 a.m. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.
E. V. D. PARR,
 Acting Superintendent.
 Hongkong, 17th July, 1916.

SS. "POLYNESIEN."

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
NOTICE.
 CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London in connection with above Steamer are hereby informed that their Goods with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables are being landed and stored at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.
 Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before Noon TO-DAY, requesting it to be landed here.
 Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned. Goods remaining unclaimed after SATURDAY, the 22nd July, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.
 All Claims must be sent in to me on or before the 25th July, or they will not be recognised.
 All damaged packages will be examined on FRIDAY, the 21st July, at 10 a.m.
 No Fire Insurance has been effected.
P. THOMAS,
 Agent.
 Hongkong, 16th July, 1916.

HONGKONG METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Hongkong Observatory, July 18th

	Previous Day	On Date	On Date
	at 2 p.m.	at 8 a.m.	at 2 p.m.
Barometer	29.87	29.87	29.89
Temperature	85	79	87
Humidity	73	91	66
Wind Direction	East	—	East
Force	4	0	4
Weather	c	b	b
Rain	—	—	—

Highest open-air Temperature on 17th... 87

Lowest open-air Temperature on 17th... 79

HONGKONG TIDE TABLE.

From 18th to 25th July, 1916.

HIGH WATER				LOW WATER			
Day	Date	H'kong Mean Time	Height	Day	Date	H'kong Mean Time	Height
		h. m.	ft. in.			h. m.	ft. in.
Wed.	19	0 48 0 10	4 5 4 5	Mon.	23	5 18 5 50	3 1 3 1
Thurs.	20	1 24 1 5	4 7 4 7	Tues.	24	6 16 7 30	1 3 1 3
Fri.	21	2 15 2 13	5 0 5 0	Wed.	25	7 30 8 9	1 3 1 3
Satur.	22	3 12 3 35	5 2 5 2	Thurs.	26	8 15 8 49	2 2 2 2
Sun.	23	3 39 5 20	5 2 5 2	Fri.	27	11 8 9 31	2 3 2 3
Mon.	24	4 32 6 46	5 2 5 2	Satur.	28	10 27 12 1	1 3 1 3
Tues.	25	6 26 8 33	5 8 5 8	Sun.	29	11 12 11 12	1 3 1 3

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE U.S.S. "CALLAO."

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at the Naval Station, Cavite, P.I., until Noon on the 24th day of September, 1916, at which time and place they will be opened for the purchase of the U.S.S. "CALLAO," appraised value, \$15,000.00, U.S. Currency.

The vessel will be sold for cash to the person or persons, or the corporation or corporations offering the highest price therefor.

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the Captain of the Yard, Commanding, U.S. Naval Station, Cavite, P.I., endorsed "PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE U.S.S. 'CALLAO,'" and each proposal must be accompanied by a cash deposit of \$1,000.00, or not less than 10 per cent. of the amount of the offer.

On application to the Captain of the Yard, Commanding, Cavite, P.I., terms of bids and bonds, together with the terms and conditions of sale, also printed list giving general information concerning the vessel, will be furnished.

The vessel can be examined at any time after the date hereof by applying to the Captain of the Yard, Commanding, Cavite, P.I. It must be removed from the limits of the Naval Yard within such reasonable time as may be fixed by the Captain of the Yard, Commanding, Cavite, P.I.

The right is reserved to withdraw the vessel from sale and to reject any or all bids.

By direction of the Secretary of the Navy, E. SIMPSON, Captain, U.S. Navy, Commandant.

CANADIAN PACIFIC OCEAN SERVICES.

LIMITED (PACIFIC SERVICE).

THE Steamship

"EMPEROR OF JAPAN"

will be dispatched from Hongkong at Noon on

WEDNESDAY,

26th JULY.

for VANCOUVER via Usual Ports of Call.

Passengers and Baggage must be on Board not later than 10 o'clock Morning of Sailing.

C. P. O. S. LTD.,

Hongkong, 18th July, 1916.

AMERICAN AND MANCHURIAN LINE.

FOR BOSTON AND NEW YORK VIA PANAMA CANAL.

THE Steamship

"CITY OF NAPLES"

Captain Pine will be designated for the above

ports on the 19th August, 1916.

For freight and further particulars apply to

THE BANK LINE, LTD.,

General Agents, Hongkong, 17th July, 1916.

NOTICE.

DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK, HONGKONG.

(In Liquidation).

CREDITORS are requested to send in their

claims to the Undersigned on or before

31st August, 1916.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Liquidators.

Appointed by the Hongkong Government

Hongkong, 13th June, 1916.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH have

received instructions to sell by

Public Auction, On FRIDAY,

the 28th day of July, 1916, at 3 o'clock in the

afternoon, at their Sale Rooms, 100 House

Street, Victoria, Hongkong.

The following very desirable residential

Property at the Peak:

situate in Chamberlain Road, 100 yards from

the Peak Tram Station and adjoining the

Peak Hotel.

Being RURAL BUILDING LOT No. 78,

and known by the name of "TREVERBYN."

The property is held under Crown Lease

and contains an area of 44,000 square feet.

For further particulars and conditions of

sale apply to:-

Messrs. HASTINGS & HASTINGS,

Vendor's Solicitors,

No. 8, Des Voeux Road Central,

or to

Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH,

The Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 10th July, 1916.

WANTED.

POSITION by ENGINEER (English-

man), just arrived in Colony.

Locomotive, Mechanical, Marine, Chief

R.O.T. certificate. In Installation, Repairs,

and Operation of all classes of Machinery;

including Steam Turbines, 2 years' Super-

intendent Machine Shop. Exceptional

references.

Reply:- Care of "Daily Press" Office.

Hongkong, 18th July, 1916.

FOR SALE.

RUBBER, TEA, and COFFEE Concessions

in Sumatra and Java, about 2,000 acres

each concession, healthy climate, and

guaranteed good prospects.

For further particulars write to:-

J. O. FEENSTRA,

4, Telegraph Street,

Singapore, Straits Settlements.

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FOR SALE.

ONE of the NEW TYPE TAPPET STEAM

ROCK DRILL complete with Number

Spares also ONE STEEL VERTICAL TUBE

DOILER, with all Fittings, Working Pressure

50 lbs. per square inch, mounted on trolley.

For full particulars apply:-

GILMAN & Co.

[866]

INTIMATIONS

THE WEST POINT BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

A N INTERIM DIVIDEND OF TWO DOLLARS per Share for the six months ending 30th June, 1916, on which date Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from FRIDAY, the 14th July, to FRIDAY, the 21st July (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors, A. SHELTON HOOPER, Secretary.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.

General Agents for

The West Point Building Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 7th July, 1916.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.

A N INTERIM DIVIDEND OF THREE AND HALF DOLLARS per Share for the six months ending 30th June, 1916, will be Payable on WEDNESDAY, 26th July, on which date Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, the 19th, to WEDNESDAY, the 26th July, (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors, A. SHELTON HOOPER, Secretary.

Hongkong, 11th July, 1916.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE DIRECTORS of the above Company have recommended an INTERIM DIVIDEND of 2% (equal to 2/- per Share) on the Preferred Ordinary Shares and 10% (equal to 10/- per Share) on the Deferred Ordinary Shares, calculated at the Rate of 2 1/4% per Dollar.

DIVIDENDS are free of Income-Tax for those Shareholders in the Colonial Register, and will be Payable on and after FRIDAY, the 11th August, 1916, at the Company's Office.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, the 3rd, to THURSDAY, the 10th August, 1916, both days inclusive.

JARDINE MATHESON & Co., Ltd., General Managers.

Hongkong, 17th July, 1916.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

(INCORPORATED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an INTERIM DIVIDEND at the Rate of 7 per cent. for the Half-Year ended 30th June, 1916, has been declared. The Dividend will be Payable on and after WEDNESDAY, the 13th day of September, 1916, to Shareholders on the Register on MONDAY, the 31st day of July, 1916, and will be paid to Shareholders on the Colonial (Hongkong) Register at exchange of 2 1/4 per Dollar.

By Order of the Board, W. E. ROBERTS, Secretary.

Hongkong, 17th July, 1916.

G. R. NOTICE.

REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.

ALL Persons not exempted who remain in the Colony for more than one week are required to register themselves at the Office of the CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

(a) In the case of Residents in the Colony, before July 23rd, 1916.

(b) In the case of new arrivals, within one week of arrival.

The following are exempted:-

(1) Members of His Majesty's Regular Naval and Military Forces.

(2) Civilians in the permanent employment of the Colonial Government or of the Naval and Military Authorities.

(3) Members of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, Hongkong Police Force, or Special Police Reserve.

(4) Consular Officers of Foreign States.

(5) The wives and daughters of persons included in any of the 4 clauses specified above.

(6) Persons of Chinese Race.

(7) Persons not exceeding 18 years of age.

Forms of registration, giving the particulars required may be obtained at the Enquiry Office G.P.O. Hongkong, The Branch Post Office at Kowloon and at all Police Stations.

The penalty for failing to comply with this Ordinance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

C. McI. MESSELI, Captain Superintendent of Police.

Hongkong, 23rd June, 1916.

TO LET.

NO. 5, MOUNTAIN VIEW, PRAT.

No. 12, BEACONSFIELD ARCADE, SHOP.

No. 8, BURROWS STREET-WANCHAI, GODOWN.

"ROSENEATH," No. 4, Hankow Road, Kowloon.

No. 3, CAMERON VILLAS, 63, PEAK ORAIGMIN EAST, 180, THE PRAT.

Unfurnished.

ROOMED FLAT to let at the PRAT, KELETT CREST, 55, PEAK.

No. 141, WANCHAI ROAD, Large and Spacious Godown.

"SHORNCLEIFFE," Garden Road, to let Furnished, 6 Rooms.

"WOODBURY," No. 4, Hankow Road, Kowloon, from 1st May, 1916.

"GLENSHIRE," No. 141, P. station Road, Peak.

"HARTING," Austin Road, Kowloon.

No. 6, BELLIOS TERRACE, with entrance on Canton Road.

TWO GODOWNS, in (Fruit-Bell) Street, No. 2, DES VOEUX VILLAGE, 1st PRAT.

Unfurnished.

No. 58, THE PRAT, "CAMERON VILLAS."

Apply to:- LUNSTED & Co., Ltd., 3rd Floor, Alexandra Buildings.

[30]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

PREMISES at present occupied by CHS. J. GAUPP & Co., Alexandra Buildings, Chater Road.

Apply on premises or to:-

LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS, Liquidators.

[705]

TO LET.

OFFICES on 1st Floor, No. 3, Queen's Road Central (In Ice House Street).

Apply to:-

WILKINSON & GRIST.

[691]

TO LET.

A TWO-STORIED EUROPEAN HOUSE at No. 19, Kennedy Road East; Consisting of Four Rooms with Bathrooms and Outhouses Complete.

Apply:-

YOUNG HEE,

10, Des Voeux Road Central.

[828]

TO LET.

A SMALL GODOWN in PRINCE'S BUILDING.

For particulars etc., apply:-

THE HONGKONG CENTRAL ESTATE, LTD.

[665]

TO LET.

From 1st May.

OFFICES, 2nd Floor, St. George's Buildings.

Apply to:-

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.

[918]

TO LET.

"ROCKLANDS," No. 7, Robinson Road, from 1st August, 1916, or earlier.

Apply:-

M. J. D. STEPHENS,

18, Bank Buildings.

[800]

TO LET.

A HOUSE, in Observatory Villas, Kowloon.

Apply to:-

ARRATOUN V. APCAR & Co.,

14, Des Voeux Road.

[811]

TO LET.

OFFICES on 1st Floor, No. 3, Queen's Road Central, at present in the occupation of The China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Apply to:-

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE Co., Ltd.

[623]

TO LET.

NO. 4, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, First Floor.

THE COMMODIOUS DWELLING HOUSE, with Offices, Sorra's Quarters, etc., No. 14, SHAMSHU, CANTON, from 1st June, at present in the occupation of the Imperial Russian Consulate.

Apply to:-

DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.

[415]

TO LET.

OFFICES in Prince's Building.

Apply to:-

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,

Reuter, Brockelmann & Co.

[573]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road.

HOUSE in KING'S BUILDINGS, CLIFTON GARDENS, Connaught Road.

No. 1, and 2, WEST END TERRACE, CANTON.

Apply to:-

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd.

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TO LET.

TWO ROOMED FLATS in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

THREE ROOMED FLATS in Prince's Building, Kowloon.

FOUR ROOMED FLATS in May Road, Kowloon.

With every modern convenience, including English Bath and Kitchen Range, Hot Water and Water Carriage System. A few flats specially designed to accommodate three bedrooms at reasonable rentals. Immediate possession.

FOUR ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.

Apply to:-

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.

Alexandra Buildings.

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BOARD AND RESIDENCE.

BEAUTIFUL SITUATION. Every convenience.

Apply:-

Care of "Daily Press" Office.

[908]

ON SALE.

HONGKONG HANSARD REPORTS of the MEETINGS of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for the Session, 1915.

Revised by THE MEMBER.

PRICE - - - - -

Apply to:-

DAILY PRESS OFFICE

Hongkong, 26th February, 1916.

[30]

INTIMATION

WATSON'S

E

OLD

BROWN

BRANDY

THE WAR.

GERMANY ADMITS RUSSIAN PRESSURE.

GENERAL LINSINGEN'S FORCES WITHDRAWING.

WEST KENTS DEFIANCE AT TRONE'S WOOD.

HUGE ANGLO-FRENCH CAPTURES.

FRANCO-BELGIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ENEMY WAR MATERIAL CAPTURED.

LONDON, July 18th.

General Sir Douglas Haig reports:—There has been incessant rain, and the heavy mist again interfered with our operations. Nothing important happened today. More prisoners were captured in local actions. The total is now 189 officers and 10,779 men. The captured guns include 17 heavy guns, 37 field-guns, and many others which have not yet been counted. The heavy pieces include five eight-inch, three six-inch howitzers, four six-inch and five other heavy guns. Also 30 trench-mortars, 63 machine-guns, and many thousand rounds of gun ammunition. The above is exclusive of the many guns destroyed and abandoned by the enemy.

General Sir Douglas Haig reports further important successes. We stormed and captured the German second-line on a front of 1,500 yards north-west of Bazentin-le-Petit, and we still further widened the gap in the German second-line east of Longueval by capturing the strongly-defended position at Water Farm. There has been a continuous hand-to-hand fighting on our left flank in Ovillers and La Boisselle, where we captured the enemy strongholds, together with 121 Guardsmen forming the remnant of the whole garrison. The whole of Ovillers and La Boisselle are now in our hands.

HEROIC WEST KENTS.

LONDON, July 17th.

Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters relates the following stirring incident:—The West Kents, who held out at Trone's Wood, numbered a hundred men, and were commanded by a Captain. They accounted for a hundred and fifty of the enemy before being relieved.

WOULD RATHER DIE THAN SURRENDER.

The correspondent of the *Echo de Paris* says that when the West Kents were cut off they managed to creep to a small fort without being noticed by the Germans. Subsequently a German patrol approached. The West Kents allowed them to advance to within a few yards and then rushed out and bayoneted them. Nothing further transpired until the evening, when a German column, on its way to the battle, chose the fort as its quarters. The West Kents attacked the Germans, who, panicked, fled, abandoning their arms. Reinforcements, however, arrived and the enemy encircled the West Kents, who fought most desperately for twenty-four hours repulsing a score of attempts to storm the fort. Finally, the Germans handed their surrender, but the West Kents replied that they would rather die than surrender. The British relieved the West Kents.

FRENCH SUCCESSES.

IG CAPTURES OF MEN AND MUNITIONS.

PARIS, July 17th.

The French captures on the Somme to July 13th include 236 officers, 11,970 men, 85 guns, 69 machine-guns, and 26 *sniper*. These do not include the material buried in the wrecked trenches. The captured guns were immediately turned out to the enemy.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RUSSIANS REPULSE AN ATTACK IN CHAMPAGNE.

An enemy *coup de main* against a trench in the Russian sector in Champagne was repulsed with loss by a counter-attack.

AT VERDUN.

PARIS, July 17th.

A *communiqué* states:—The night was comparatively quiet at Verdun, except a lively fusillade at Hill 304.

Detachments of our troops progressed west of Fleury and captured three machine-guns.

Two enemy attacks south-east of Nouvion and Lorraine were repulsed and prisoners were taken.

QUIET IN FLEURY SECTOR.

PARIS, July 18th.

A *communiqué* states:—On the right of the Meuse the artillery duel continued in the region of Souville. We have taken 200 prisoners in the Fleury sector. There has been comparative quiet on the rest of the front.

The weather is atrocious.

CAPTURED DOCUMENTS REVEAL ENEMY LOSSES.

LONDON, July 17th.

General Sir Douglas Haig quotes from the captured documents showing the heaviest enemy casualties. These consist of appeals for reinforcements, mostly from Company commanders, all Bavarian. One says:—"Owing to exhaustion, the men cannot be counted upon in case of attack. The Company strength is one officer and twelve men." Another says:—"My Company has completely lost its fighting value owing to the heaviest and most intense artillery fire. Relief is urgently requested." But the following, from the second battalion to the third battalion of the Sixteenth Bavarian Infantry, is the most striking:—"The battalion consists of three officers, two non-coms, and nineteen men."

RUSSIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GREAT RUSSIAN CAPTURES.

PETROGRAD, July 17th.

An official *communiqué* says:—Yesterday the Russians captured in Volhynia, 317 officers, 12,037 men, and 30 guns. The latter included 17 heavy guns.

RUSSIAN PRESSURE TOWARDS LEMBERG.

GERMAN ADMISSIONS.

AMSTERDAM, July 17th.

A German official announcement makes the important admission that General Linsingen's forces, which are operating south-west of Lutsk, have withdrawn behind the Lipsa, a tributary of the Styra, to north-west of Brody, on the Galician frontier. This indicates more acute Russian pressure towards Lemberg.

RUSSIAN CAVALRY ADVANCING.

PETROGRAD, July 18th.

North-west of Kimpolung the Russian Cavalry are advancing on the Kirlibaba Pass, in the Carpathians, in the direction of Maramarosziget.

BAIBURT BURNING.

PETROGRAD, July 18th.

The retreating Turks set fire to Baiburt.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ENEMY'S DESPERATE RESISTANCE IN LUCK SALIENT.

PETROGRAD, July 18th.

A *communiqué* shows that the fighting in Volhynia is partly eastward of Svinjuchi, where "we broke the enemy's resistance," and partly in the Lower Lipsa. Both are in the south-western sector of the Luck salient. It was at Lipsa that the bulk of the prisoners and guns were captured, though here the enemy continues a desperate resistance.

ITALIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

AUSTRIAN ATTACK REPULSED.

SEVERE HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING.

ROME, July 17th.

A *communiqué* states:—A heavy enemy attack, supported by concentrated artillery fire, was made in the Upper Posina. It was entirely repulsed by a counter-attack, after severe hand-to-hand fighting.

GENERAL.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

H.I.G.M.F. "DEUTSCHLAND."

FORTHCOMING DEPARTURE.

NEW YORK, July 18th.

Excitement prevails over the forthcoming departure of the German submarine merchantman *Deutschland*.

A message from Herr Jagow, the German Foreign Secretary, says:—"If the British are dastardly enough to sink the *Deutschland*, the United States are bound to protest in the name of civilization and humanity."

BETTING AGAINST SAFE RETURN.

The Captain is trying to secure American passenger safeguards. In view of the Pro-Germans' boasts, British sportsmen have offered to accept up to five thousand sterling all the pro-German money at 50 to 1 against the vessel's arrival in Bremen.

THE IRISH SITUATION.

HOME RULE AMENDING BILL.

LONDON, July 17th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Asquith announced that the Home Rule Amending Bill would be introduced before the Recess, and that a permanent settlement of the Irish Question would be considered by the Imperial Conference after the war.

THE IMPERIAL UNIONIST ASSOCIATION.

LONDON, July 18th.

The Imperial Committee, rechristened the "Imperial Unionist Association," watches the negotiations between the Government and the Nationalists. Seventy-six peers and 98 members of the House of Commons have so far joined the Association. Lord Salisbury presided at a meeting held yesterday evening, when it was resolved that the Association are viewing with apprehension the establishment of the Irish Parliament Executive.

BRITAIN'S HUGE WAR EXPENDITURE.

SIX MILLION DAILY.

LONDON, July 18th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. McKenna, Chancellor of the Exchequer, intimated that Great Britain's total daily expenditure now amounted to £6,000,000.

PREMIER HUGHES ON IMPERIALISM.

LONDON, July 18th.

The Hon. Mr. Hughes, Premier of Australia, passing through South Africa, visited Capetown, Bloemfontein, and Kimberley, where he delivered strongly Imperialistic speeches.

General Louis Botha, who is on a visit to German East Africa, was unable to meet the distinguished visitor.

Mr. Hughes has now sailed for Australia.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

MEDICAL REPORT ON MESOPOTAMIA.

* LONDON, July 18th.

In the House of Commons, in reply to Sir H. Craik (C.), Mr. Austen Chamberlain, announced that he had asked the Viceroy of India to expedite the consideration of the report on the medical arrangements in Mesopotamia by the authorities in India, and address it to him, with their observations, as soon as possible.

Sir H. Craik asked:—Were not the contents of the report common knowledge? Mr. Chamberlain replied:—Quite possibly, but they ought not to be so, because the report only reached the Raj quite recently, and he had not a copy himself.

He emphasised that it was right that the Raj and the Imperial Government should have an opportunity of examining the report prior to publication. He assured the House that everything possible was being done to ameliorate the conditions.

Mr. H. W. Forster (C.) stated that the War Office had complied with all the demands hitherto made.

KITCHENER MEMORIAL FUND.

LONDON, July 17th.

Over £18,000 have been received towards the Kitchener Memorial Fund.

H.R.H. PRINCE OF WALES.

LONDON, July 17th.

The Prince of Wales has been gazetted Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General.

ETON'S NEW HEADMASTER.

LONDON, July 18th.

The Rev. Mr. C. A. Alington, at present Headmaster of Shrewsbury School, has been elected Headmaster of Eton, in succession to the Rev. Hon. Edward Lytton.

INCIDENT AT KARACHI?

* LONDON, July 18th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Austen Chamberlain stated that he had been telegraphically informed of a lamentable incident at Karachi, and that he had asked for a full report. Meanwhile, steps had been taken to ensure that the troops will not be removed by rail from Karachi to Northern India under such conditions in the hot weather.

* Received to-day.

EX-POLITICAL PRISONERS.

REPRESENTATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA.

Over thirty persons, who have just been released from the Chi Fa Chu or Martial Court, where they had been imprisoned for political offences by order of Yuan Shih-kai, have held a meeting, at which resolutions were adopted demanding, among other things:—

That the Government should be requested to order General Lai Cheng-chun, the Chief of the Chi Fa Chu or Peking Martial Court, to issue a statement disclosing the reasons why political prisoners were convicted and executed, and that the personal effects of the prisoners, which were seized and confiscated by the Authorities concerned upon and after their arrest, should be returned to their respective owners, in default of which adequate compensation should be paid; that an account of each prisoner's life, past career, illegal arrest and maltreatment by the Yuan Administration should be published; and that the remains of all those who have either died in the prison of the Chi Fa Chu or were executed by the said Court should be gathered together and a proper spot selected for a common burial ground, where some tablet should be erected in memory of the dead.

"THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE SHOULD BE VOICED."

BAN ON REPUBLICAN NEWS PAPERS REMOVED.

Eighteen Republican papers, which came under the ban of the late Yuan Shih-kai régime in China, have been restored their rights of publication by an order issued by the Ministry of Interior. Some of the papers were forbidden to be sold or mailed in Chinese territory, while others were refused registration at the Post Office on account of their severe criticism of the Yuan administration and the monarchist movement. In restoring to these papers their rights of publication, etc., the order of the Ministry of Interior says:—"The present situation demands that the will of the people should be voiced and public opinion helped to make itself felt."

WHAT GERMANY WANTS.

THE MEANING OF VERDUN.

[BY LOVAT FRASER.]

It cannot be urged too often that we are probably approaching the climax of the war and ought to be concentrating all our thoughts upon it.

The climax of the war does not in the least mean that its end is necessarily approaching. It means that the war may then take a course which may prove unalterable.

The cardinal factor in the present situation is the increasing desperation of the Germanic Powers. They are not quite so short of food or of men as the British public seems to think; but they are straining every nerve to secure a decision and impose peace on their own terms before next winter. If they attain their object the world will be under the heel of the Prussian jack-boot ten years hence.

As a consequence of the latest developments the movements of the war grow less obscure; but note that none of the great events of the last month was clearly foreseen. Nothing that was expected happened; everything that did happen was unexpected. The four great events have been the naval battle off Jutland, the renewal in fiercer form of the German attacks on Verdun, the formidable Austrian offensive in the Trentino, and the smashing of the Russian eastern front by the Russians. Not one of these events figured in the current predictions.

We see now that the interminable battle of Verdun is neither lost nor won. We see that the Germans appear to be staking their fortunes upon it, and that on the whole they have gained a good deal of ground, and lost very little. Hindenburg must be fuming, for his offensive in Courland has been delayed and its prospects have been impaired.

We ought to be regarding Verdun very seriously. It concerns England as intimately as France. The fact that our Allies have ample lines of fresh defences west of the Meuse would not alter both the military and the moral effect of the fall of Verdun. The immediate military effect would probably be that the Germans would take advantage of the gap they have long held at St. Mihiel and seek to carry the unoccupied Heights of the Meuse between that town and Verdun. The larger moral effect would have deeper significance. Verdun is by common consent the strongest and the best-defended position actually forming part of the western front. When the Germans attacked it we thought they were mad, and wondered why they did not select a weaker sector. We may now assume that they chose Verdun with calculated deliberation. Verdun is the only fortress which directly bars the way to Paris. They wanted to show what they could do, and to impress the Allies and the whole world. The task is taking far longer and costing infinitely more than they ever expected, but the motive begins to emerge. Should Verdun be captured we can conceive the German Chancellor saying next day:—"You see what we can do. And now what about peace?"

Verdun is still very far from falling, and we may trust it will never be taken; but the outcome of the immense struggle will affect us all. It presents to us a grave and perhaps a vital issue.

The great and gratifying surprise of the early summer has been the tremendous blow struck by Russia at the Austrian armies on the eastern front. All the winter people were discussing whether the Austro-German forces would march upon Petrograd or upon Odessa in the spring. No one, to my knowledge, ever suggested that this year's campaign would open with the headlong rout of the Austrians (who had not got their best troops in Russia).

In the west last year we never properly understood the Russian campaign. We were staggered by the imposing Austro-German sweep through Galicia and by the way Warsaw and one Russian fortress after another fell like a set of ninepins. Then our attention was absorbed by our own battle of Loos, and we hardly noticed the immense Austro-German offensive slackening and dying away in the Russian swamps and forests. When our Russian friends insisted that Germany had failed on their front we did not grasp what they meant.

The chief cause of the German failure was the great and mysterious marshland known to us as the Pripiet Marshes, in the heart of West Russia. Its correct name is Polissie, and it was the original home of the Slavs. From these impassable morasses the Slavs have spread and multiplied, and in their dim recesses they developed the dreamy and imaginative qualities which mark their countless descendants.

The enemy hoped to conclude a separate peace with Russia when they took Warsaw and Brest-Litovsk, which shows how little they knew the unconquerable spirit of the Czar and his people. When they pressed onward in the late autumn it was absolutely imperative for them to seize and hold the one railway line running north and south through the marshes and linking up Vilna and Rowno. They never got it, for the invincible marsh defeated them, and they are feeling the consequences to-day. The Germans are north of the marshes, the Austrians are south of them. Their communications are circuitous, and the division has been fatal to their joint purpose.

The Russians have now shattered the feature of their exploit is that they buried the Austrians from an elaborately entrenched line. If they can reach Kovel as well as Dubno they must compel a general falling back of the Austrian armies, and perhaps affect Hindenburg's dispositions in the north. But it is inconceivable that their cavalry is within eighteen miles of Lemberg, and we ought to shed the foolish habit of expecting Muscovite miracles once a week. As it is, they are doing wonders.

"AMERICA FIRST."

MR. WILSON ON THE AIMS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Intimating that America expects to play a part in the European peace settlement and giving a definition of militarism which seemed to apply directly to Germany, President Wilson delivered a long address at West Point to the graduating class of the Military Academy. Mr. Wilson asserted that the world was going to know that when America speaks she means what she says. He pleaded for preparedness, and added:—

"No man can certainly tell you what the immediate future is going to be, either in the history of this country or in the history of the world. It is not by accident that the present great war came in Europe. Every element was there, and the contest had to come sooner or later. It is not going to be by accident that the results are worked out, but by the purpose of men who are strong enough to have guiding minds and indomitable wills when the time for decision and settlement comes."

"The part the United States is to play has this distinction in it, that it is to be in any event a distinction. There is no danger of militarism in America. Militarism is a spirit, it is a point of view; it is a system; it is a purpose. The purpose of militarism is to use armies for aggression; the spirit of militarism is the opposite of the civilian spirit. In a country where militarism prevails the military man looks down upon the civilian, regards him as inferior, thinks of him as intended for the military man's support and use, and just as long as America is America that spirit is impossible with us."

"We have been disturbed recently because some of those, though I believe a very small number, whom we have drawn into our citizenship have loved other countries more than the country of their adoption. We ought to let it be known that nobody who does not put America first can consort with us. We are ready to join other nations of the world in seeing that kind of justice prevails anywhere that we believe in."

WAR NEWS.

FRUITS OF THE NAVAL BATTLE.

Lord Beresford, speaking at the Mansion House, said the North Sea battle would be the turning point of the war if the Government would only put on a strong, rigid, and effective blockade now. If it had been done at first the war would have been over months ago. If the blockade had been put on the first day of the war it would have been according to international law. Our difficulties began when we did not put it on and allowed neutrals to embark on contracts involving an enormous expenditure of money.

FISH-SHAPED ZEPPELIN.

AIR TORPEDOES WITH NINE MILES RANGE.

The *Nieuwe Courant* publishes from a correspondent in Zurich a detailed description of the newly completed "super-Zeppelin," which has just been making trial trips over the heads of the inhabitants of the shores of Lake Constance.

The new airship, it is said, is specially designed for use against ships at sea. It differs materially in dimensions and construction from previous Zeppelins. It is fish-shaped and of great length in proportion to its diameter. It has twenty-four balloons within the outer envelope and four gondolas, and can carry a crew of from thirty to forty men and an enormous quantity of bombs. The motors can develop from 3,000 to 4,000-horse power, giving a maximum speed of 50 miles an hour. The steering apparatus, which differs from that of the other Zeppelins, is so perfected that the ship can turn on its own axis in half a minute, a material advantage in manoeuvring over vessels provided with anti-aircraft guns.

At the sides of the envelope platforms are built on which to place small guns. The airship will carry "air torpedoes," a kind designed by a Swedish inventor, Major Junge, which can be fired a distance of 9 miles. They each contain 420lb. of explosives.

GREAT WAR-AFTER-THE-WAR ALLIANCE.

By far the most significant manoeuvre in Germany's scheme for the War-after-the-War is the amalgamation of the Empire's "engineering brains" in one centralized body called "German League of Engineering and Economic Associations." It comprises the following six leading institutions:—

Society of German Engineers, Society of German Architects, Designers, and Builders, Society of German Blast Furnacemen, Society of German Chemists, Society of Electrical Engineers, Society of Shipbuilding Engineers. The combination will represent a membership of 60,000 and can justly claim to incorporate all the scientific and engineering talents of Germany. The first presidency of the new league—a fact worthy of more than a passing note—has been given to Privy Councillor Professor Dr. Busley, managing director of the Schichau warship building plant at Danzig. Dr. Busley, an intimate friend of the Kaiser and Herr Ballin, is a distinguished marine engineer, who has been as conspicuously identified with the purely constructional side of the German Navy and merchant marine as Tirpitz and Ballin respectively have been with their general development. It is openly acknowledged in Germany that the league of all the talents has been organised to confront the great new tasks which the present era conjures up.

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tional degree of incapacity caused his war service shall be taken into account in assessing the amount.

"The rates of pension provided in Our Warrant, including the reduced rates for children, may be granted as from 1st March, 1915, or date of discharge if later, in all cases of soldiers disabled throughout the present war from its commencement."

trenches were all gone: The fragment his company was told to fall back, he refused. He had got his private killed there, and one of the wounded veterans was a pal from his own small town in far Saskatchewan. So he stayed his pal.

A SPLENDID STORY AND ITS MORAL.

It is all a dreadful story to have to tell, but a splendid one. Long after the issues of minor engagements in this war are forgotten, and when everybody ceases to care whether at any one time he gained or lost a hundred yards of ground or a mile of trench, the men of how the Canadians fought again hopeless odds near Hooge will be remembered, and Canada and the Empire be proud, for generations to come, of the men whose deeds I have mentioned and of their no less gallant comrade Nor-wil Canada or the Empire ever get what every neutral in the world should be told to-day—how the Germans called these men cowards.

INDIAN AFRICAN LINE.

Cargo carried on through Bills of Lading from HONGKONG to BELLA, DELAGOA BAY, DURBAN (Natal), EAST LONDON, PORT ELIZABETH and CAPE TOWN with transshipment at COLOMBO to Steamers of the INDIAN AFRICAN LINE.

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26th July. "GUJARAT" 17th Aug.

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BANGKOK "HUICHOW" On 21st July, 3 P.M.
SHANGHAI "ANHUI" On 23rd July, 11 P.M.
WEIHAIWEI and TIENTSIN "KUEICHOW" On 25th July, 4 P.M.
MANILA, CEBU and ILOILO "TAMING" On 25th July, 4 P.M.
HAIPHONG "KAIFONG" On 25th July, 4 P.M.

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"HAITAN" ... Capt. J. S. Thomson ... TUESDAY, 25th July, at 2 P.M.
"BAIHONG" ... Capt. J. W. Evans ... FRIDAY, 18th July, at 2 P.M.

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Hongkong, 19th July, 1916.

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to	from	Str. from COLOMBO	1916	1916
NANKIN	July 29	Through Steamer	Sept. 1	Sept. 10
NOYAKA	Aug. 11	*KAISAR-I-HIND	Sept. 11	Sept. 18
NORE	Aug. 25	*MOOLTAN	Sept. 25	Oct. 2
MALTA	Sep. 8	*KASHGAR	Oct. 9	Oct. 16
NAMUR	Sep. 22	Through Steamer	Oct. 26	Nov. 4
SARDINIA	Oct. 6	Through Steamer	Nov. 9	Nov. 18
NOYAKA	Oct. 20	*MOHRA	Nov. 19	Nov. 26
NORE	Nov. 3	Through Steamer	Dec. 6	Dec. 15
NYANZA	Nov. 17	*MONGOLIA	Dec. 17	Dec. 24

* Passengers change Steamers at COLOMBO.
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LONDON via SINGAPORE, MALACCA, PENANG, COLOMBO, DURBAN, CAPE TOWN, and TENERIFE	*MISHIMA MARU Capt. S. Nishimura	18,000	THURSDAY, 20th July, at Noon
	*SUWA MARU Capt. T. Sekine	21,000	THURSDAY, 3rd Aug., at Noon
VICTORIA, B.C. and SEATTLE via KEELUNG, SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI, SHANGHAI and YOKOHAMA	*SHIDZUKA MARU Capt. Noma	12,500	WEDNESDAY, 19th July, at 4 P.M.
	*KAMAKURA MARU Capt. T. Kusano	12,400	TUESDAY, 8th Aug., at 4 P.M.
SYDNEY and MELBOURNE via MANILA, BANGKOK, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE and BRISBANE	*AKI MARU Capt. K. Yoshikawa	12,500	TUESDAY, 15th Aug., at 11 A.M.
	*TANGO MARU Capt. S. Takano	13,500	TUESDAY, 12th Sept., at 4 P.M.
CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG and RANGOON	COLOMBO MARU Capt. Nomura	8,000	SUNDAY, 30th July.
BOMBAY via SINGAPORE, MALACCA and COLOMBO	BOMBAY MARU Capt. Kotsuyoshi	8,000	(SATURDAY, 22nd July.
SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	TENSHIN MARU Capt. Kawai	8,000	(MONDAY, 31st July.
SHANGHAI, MOJI and KOBE	RANGOON MARU Capt. Mori	11,500	(THURSDAY, 20th July.
NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	TANGO MARU Capt. Takano	13,500	(SATURDAY, 12th Aug., at 5 P.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	*IYO MARU Capt. K. Syoda	12,500	(SUNDAY, 30th July, at 10 A.M.

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TENYO MARU	22,000—21 knots	FRI., 21st July Noon
*NIPPON MARU	11,000 — 15 knots	THURS. 3rd Aug. 10.30 A.M.
SHINYO MARU	22,000—21 knots	TUES., 15th Aug. Noon.
*ANYO MARU	18,500 — 15 knots	TUES., 12th Sept. Noon.
*PERSIA MARU	9,000 — 14 knots	THURS., 21st Sept. 10.30 A.M.

* Via MANILA, Omitting Shanghai

* Proceeding to South American Ports.
* Omitting Manila, Shanghai and Honolulu.

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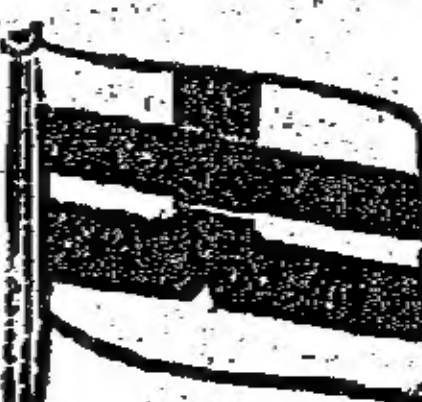
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* Omitting Manila and Nagasaki.

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